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J. D. [Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Gradischnig
Appl. No.: 09/367,580
Filed: August 17, 1999
Title: NODE SUPPORTING LINKS HAVING THE ABILITY TO TRANSFER
LONGER MESSAGES THAN ACCORDING TO CURRENT MTP LEVEL 2
Art Unit: 2665
Examiner: M. Phan
Docket No.: 112740-055

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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MAY 19 2003

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2002, Applicant herein amends the above-identified application and responds as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 7-12 as follows:

7. (Twice amended) A node which supports enhanced links having an ability to transfer long messages which are longer than that supported by current MTP level 2 and up to a maximum length supported by SSCOP, the node comprising:

first and second destination point codes, wherein the second destination point code is used to identify the node as one having the ability to transfer the long messages, and both the first and second destination point codes are part of a same MTP network.

8. (Once amended) A node as claimed in claim 7, further comprising MTP routing tables supporting the enhanced links, wherein the routing tables are structured such that routing between nodes with the second destination point code uses only the enhanced links.